

**Law Enforcement Division
Bi-Weekly Field Report
9/28/14 – 10/11/14**

DISTRICT 1

CO Mark Leadman and PCO Josiah Killingbeck reported an increased level of ORV activity. The following violations were encountered last week: operate ORV no license, operate ORV no helmet, operate ORV while operator license suspended, operate ORV on public highway, operate ORV in closed area and operate ORV against the flow of traffic. Enforcement action was taken.

COs Mark Leadman and Elton Luce contacted two juveniles operating ORVs without supervision and who also were in possession of firearms. The juveniles had plans to hunt unsupervised when they reached their destination. The juveniles were escorted home and the parents were contacted. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Douglas Hermanson received a call from a bear hunting outfitter in Ontonagon County who found a dead bear cub near a bear bait. The bear was located where a hunter claimed he shot at and missed a bear. CO Hermanson responded to the scene and collected the cub and a spent rifle casing. A bullet was recovered from a log in the bait pile. Incriminating text messages from the hunter to the outfitter were also retrieved. The cub had been shot then dragged into a nearby creek, and the hunter had gone back home to the Flint area. CO Joel Lundberg and PCO William Brickel were called to conduct an interview. The hunter admitted to shooting the cub then attempting to hide it. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Douglas Hermanson contacted two subjects shooting at a target and bottles with a pistol on state land. The pistol owner stated he had bought the pistol last month but hadn't registered it. He said he had proof of purchase at his residence. The pistol was seized and the suspects were met again at the home where an inspection of the purchase paperwork was done. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Dave Painter and PCO Mike Mansell handled a complaint of the theft of trail cameras and tree stands in Iron County. Contact was made with a possible suspect and it was determined the trail cameras and tree stands were placed on private property and were removed by the landowner. After a discussion with both parties a peaceful resolution was found, and the trail cameras and tree stands returned.

On September 30th, while patrolling an area with complaints of early deer hunting, CO Marvin Gerlach and PCO Brett DeLonge observed an occupied camp that had questionable activities going on. Just prior to nightfall the COs observed a light shine from a tree stand and an individual exited toward the ground. Upon contact with the individual, the COs observed a compound bow and after a brief interview learned of a second hunter that was later contacted. Both individuals admitted to deer hunting before the start of archery season. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Jason Wicklund was working when he came across a bear hunter who had just had his dog killed by wolves. CO Doug Hermanson was in the area and came to assist with the investigation. The bear hunter informed the COs that he also had another dog killed by wolves two weeks prior in the same area. As the COs were finishing their investigation, Sgt. Marc Pomroy called to inform the COs that another dog was missing a few miles north of where they were. The COs responded to assist a bird hunter in looking for his dog, which according to the hunter had encountered a pack of dogs just prior to disappearing. After two hours of searching the dog was not located.

CO Brian Bacon checked an illegal bear bait he had located earlier in the year. Contact was made with a hunter using an illegal blind that had been set up at the bait location. Along with the illegal bear bait, the hunter was utilizing an illegal ground blind and had failed to register his ORV since 2011. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Grant Emery contacted a group of bear hound hunters who were utilizing illegal baits. The baits were established before the legal start date, and CO Emery was able to investigate and determine the responsible parties. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Marvin Gerlach and PCO Brett DeLonge initiated a stop on an ORV operating along the state highway. The subject turned out to be the same individual who was given a warning for the illegal operation a month earlier. Enforcement action was taken.

DISTRICT 2

CO Robert Crisp assisted a U S Forest Service officer in a contact with a small game hunter. The woman exited the woods carrying a single shot 20 gauge shotgun loaded with bird shot, wearing hunter orange, with a hunting dog and denied that she had been hunting. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Jerrold Fitzgibbon and PCO Rob Freeborn set up a grouse decoy in a complaint area. They were targeting road hunting and people shooting from vehicles. Within 15 minutes of setting up the decoy they had their first customer. PCO Freeborn stopped the driver after the loaded gun was pointed out the driver's window (allowing the decoy to survive another encounter). The education of hunter safety continued with a ticket being issued for possessing a loaded gun in a vehicle.

PCO Jon Busken and CO Kevin Postma were patrolling Chippewa County when they came across a vehicle stopped in the middle of the road. The vehicle began moving forward when approached by the COs before stopping once again. It was immediately apparent the operator was intoxicated. Multiple open containers of alcohol were recovered from the vehicle. During field sobriety tests the driver told the COs, "Just take me to jail". "I am not going to pass your test." A later breath test revealed the subject's blood alcohol level was over the legal limit. The subject was arrested and lodged in the Chippewa County jail and tickets were issued to the passengers for open intoxicants in a motor vehicle.

PCO Jon Busken and CO Kevin Postma assisted local deputies with a car accident where the victim was pinned in their vehicle. The victim sustained several injuries that required numerous surgeries, and is looking at a long recovery. The investigation revealed that the "at fault" driver had a suspended driver's license and was drunk at the time of the crash. The Chippewa County Sheriff Department completed the investigation and is seeking warrants through the Prosecutors office.

While patrolling for waterfowl and small game hunters, CO Mike Hammill and PCO Bobby Watson checked a state forest campground. While in the campground, two separate groups came out of their campers with envelopes and money in hand, attempting to pay for their overnight stay. When questioned, each camper admitted to camping for multiple nights without paying. Enforcement action was taken.

DISTRICT 3

While patrolling the Boyne River, CO Duane Budreau received a complaint from an angler regarding subjects snagging downstream. CO Budreau located two subjects on posted private property – one spotting fish and the other ripping them out of the stream with a snag hook. After observing two salmon snagged, contact was made and one subject identified himself as a tribal member. Both were ticketed for recreational trespass and the snagger was turned over to the tribal CO for prosecution in tribal court.

COs Andrea Erratt and Steve Speigl received an identical complaint from last year, about a group of non-resident anglers who were snagging. One officer posed as an angler, and observed the blatant snagging of salmon. Tickets were issued and fish and gear were seized.

CO Carl VanderWall apprehended two subjects on a small creek at 1:30 a.m. using a large landing net to scoop up salmon. One subject is currently on parole. Tickets were issued.

CO Andrea Erratt received a complaint of duck hunters trespassing on private land. Upon contact, they stated they followed their GPS and were sure it was public land. After checking them, a ticket was issued for an unplugged shotgun and warnings issued for the trespass violation.

CO Steve Speigl and PCO Brad Bellville received a RAP complaint involving field waterfowl hunters and a possible safety zone violation. PCO Bellville contacted the complainant at his residence and, while inside, heard shots and observed geese falling from the sky. The COs contacted the hunting party in the field and checked birds, licenses, guns and shells. The COs also used a range finder to determine that the hunters were well outside of the safety zone. After checking hunters the complainant requested additional contact as he had found steel shot BB's on his back deck. The COs again contacted the hunters and informed them that even though they were outside the safety zone, they were still responsible for the final destination of their shot.

CO Steve Speigl received a complaint of waterfowl hunters possibly overlimiting on geese in Antrim County. Once on scene CO Speigl watched the hunters for a period of time and no birds were taken. Contact was made with the hunters at the end of legal shooting hours and the CO found the area to be baited with corn. The hunters only had one goose in their bag for the day, but enforcement action was taken for the illegal baiting of waterfowl.

Patience paid off when CO Andrea Albert caught two subjects attempting to spear salmon in a closed stream with large sharpened sticks. CO Albert waited for several hours before catching the subjects who came in right at dark and tried numerous times to spear the spawning salmon with the pointed sticks. That did not work very well so they took a small net and attached it to one of the sticks in an attempt to net the salmon. Violations including attempting to take salmon with an illegal device, fish no license and fish closed stream. Tickets were issued to both subjects.

CO Mark DePew was working the Boyne River in plainclothes and watched an angler snag a salmon. His partner asked if he was going to keep it and said he was because the COs had just left and they weren't coming back. The snagger was then contacted and issued a ticket for retaining a foul hooked fish.

CO Mark DePew was working state land and watched a hunter who was not wearing hunter orange get out of his jeep with a loaded gun. The vehicle was stopped and the hunter still had his shotgun loaded. He was ticketed for having a loaded firearm in a motor vehicle and warned for hunting without hunter orange.

CO Mark DePew watched two duck hunters shoot three grebes on the opening morning of duck season. When the hunters were contacted they initially stated they had shot hen wood ducks and tried to hide the illegal birds, but eventually admitted to shooting them. They were issued tickets for taking a nongame species.

CO Kelly Ross was driving down a road when he had to brake to avoid being hit by a vehicle which had driven through a stop sign. The vehicle was stopped and the driver was found to have an open beer and was operating under the influence of alcohol. With assistance from the Michigan State Police (MSP) and local deputies the driver was arrested and lodged in the Montmorency County Jail.

CO Bill Webster contacted three duck hunters who were doing a lot of shooting and found them to be three birds over their limit. The hunters stated that hunting was really good and lost track of how many they had shot. The hunters were ticketed for their violations.

DISTRICT 4

CO Sean Kehoe responded to a complaint of a subject snagging salmon on the Boardman River. CO Kehoe located the subject and observed his actions for some time. The subject hooked a salmon near the head but not in the mouth and proceeded

to land and keep the fish. Upon contact, the subject advised CO Kehoe that he had been told that as long as the hook was anywhere near the head that it was okay to keep it. CO Kehoe showed the subject the section in the fishing guide where it explains in detail where a fish must be hooked in order to be legal. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Sam Koscinski received a complaint late Saturday night of a suspect who had shot a deer with a firearm and then put it into a storage building on his property. CO Koscinski responded and observed a subject inside the residence matching the description of the shooter. A vehicle in the driveway also matched the description provided in the complaint. Upon announcing his presence and knocking on the door, the occupants in the residence proceeded to hide and not come to the door. Numerous attempts to get the suspect to come to the door failed. COs Steve Converse and Holly Pennoni responded to assist hours later and surveillance was conducted on the storage building and residence. Nearly 12 hours later the suspect came out of the house to talk with the officers. The officers were already in the process of securing a search warrant when the suspect exited the residence. The suspect admitted to shooting the doe from an upper story window in the residence with a .270 rifle. The suspect admitted to knowing that the COs were outside the residence but was too afraid to answer the door. The search warrant was executed, with evidence, including a gunshot doe, rifle and spent shell casing, collected. Another subject at the residence was arrested on an outstanding warrant and turned over to Wexford County deputies. A complaint and warrant will be sought for the illegal taking of a deer.

CO Brian Brosky caught up with a subject who had been hunting from an illegal blind on public land that was not removed after deer season several years in a row. CO Brosky had tried to contact the subject many times but was unable to catch him while he was in the blind. A caller advised that the subject was back again this year and CO Brosky was finally able to catch him hunting in the illegal blind with an oversized bait pile. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Brian Brosky responded to a complaint where a private property owner was experiencing problem with subjects trespassing on his property to snag salmon. CO Brosky was granted permission to access the complainant's property to check on a secluded section of the river and on his first patrol located a kayaker who had pulled up onto the complainant's property to snag salmon. CO Brosky watched as the subject hooked into several salmon using no bait and a weight attached below the hook. When the subject would land fish, she would fillet them immediately and then deposit the carcasses on the private property. When contacted, the subject stated that she does this trip every year as she knows it is an excellent location to quickly obtain a limit of salmon. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Brian Brosky was checking a small trout stream in Mason County when he observed three subjects running away from him just upstream from his location. CO Brosky ran after the subjects and stopped them at their campsite, only to find they had a filleted Brown Trout in their possession during the closed season. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Brian Brosky was following a vehicle and saw that the driver was not using turn signals and then began driving erratically. The driver sped up to almost 90 MPH and lost control on a curve. CO Brosky activated his emergency lights and stopped the vehicle. It was discovered that the driver was suspended and that there were two 19 year old females in the backseat that were intoxicated and in possession of additional alcohol. CO Brosky ran the subjects through LEIN and found that the females had outstanding arrest warrants for the same offense of minor in possession. CO Brosky lodged the driver for DWLS and local deputies lodged the MIPs.

Sgt. Carla Soper and CO Brian Brosky were working a closed portion on Pine Creek when they located several subjects fishing the closed waters and snagging salmon. As they were observing the subjects, a passerby stopped to advise the subjects in the water that the river was closed to fishing. One subject who had just netted his second fish stated to the passerby that he knew it was closed but didn't necessarily care because he wanted the fish. The COs then made contact and enforcement action was taken.

COs Brian Brosky and Kyle Publiski received a complaint of illegal fishing activity on the Manistee River. The officers responded and walked for over an hour to arrive to the location where the subjects were fishing. The COs set up surveillance on the group and found a total of seven subjects violating the fishing laws which included snagging, retaining foul hooked fish and the use of illegal gear. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Brian Brosky and PCO Sykham Keophalychanh were called for a snagging complaint in the Ludington State Park. The COs positioned themselves behind the suspect and watched as he put out only a few feet of line at a time and attempted to snag the salmon. When contacted, the subject insisted that he was getting bites every time that he jerked his rod. The officers advised differently and took enforcement action and informed him to leave the park. After they cleared the incident, many people fishing in the same location thanked the officers for making the violator leave.

Sgt. Carla Soper and CO Angela Greenway responded to a complaint where a subject had potentially taken three bucks in violation of the antler point restrictions on hunting property in Lake County. The officers were able to locate three fresh deer carcasses with the antlers removed. Using information that had been provided by the complainant, COs Greenway and Brian Lebel then went to Newaygo County where they located the owner of the hunting property and subsequently the name of the person who had been hunting there. The officers then made contact with the hunter who confessed to shooting three spike bucks. The hunter did not have any licenses to hunt deer and was able to turn over the three sets of antlers. Enforcement action was taken.

A weekend group patrol was conducted at Tippy Dam and the greater Manistee River area addressing snagging and illegal fishing activity which resulted in 56 tickets being issued for various fishing violations with over 336 pounds of illegal salmon seized.

Sgt. Carla Soper and CO Andrea Albert from District 3 worked a stretch of the Manistee River near Tippy Dam when they encountered in one pass-through on the half mile section, two subjects that had retained foul hooked salmon, three subjects using illegal fishing gear, one subject attempting to foul hook salmon and two subjects smoking marijuana. Enforcement action was taken on all.

CO Steve Converse went by a local stream that was closed to fishing and witnessed three subjects in the water, two with fishing poles and one with a net. CO Converse quickly approached the subjects and obtained the fishing gear and their identifications. CO Converse ran the subjects and discovered one subject had an outstanding felony warrant and an outstanding child support warrant and another didn't possess a valid fishing license. CO Converse addressed the fishing in a closed stream and no fishing license and lodged the felon in the Wexford County Jail.

CO Steve Converse was working a section of the Little Manistee River that was closed when he observed seven subjects fishing. The subjects were using spoons and lead minnows to attempt to take the salmon. Upon contacting them they stated they didn't know the river was closed and weren't familiar with the fishing regulations. When CO Converse obtained identification and checked them for priors, it was revealed that two subjects had been issued snagging tickets in the past. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Steve Converse was working along the Manistee River when he observed subjects snagging from two boats that were obviously fishing together. CO Converse directed the two boats to come over to shore. One vessel obeyed his order and came to his location while the other one took off heading up the river. Once CO Converse obtained identification from the subjects onboard the vessel, he advised the operator to take him to the other boat that had fled. As they approached the fleeing vessel, it stopped and CO Converse made his presence known. The fleeing operator apologized and stated that he wasn't expecting him to show up this way, onboard his friend's boat. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Brian Lebel observed three waterfowl hunters motoring through a wetland with two of the occupants of the boat standing and holding their firearms. CO Lebel made contact with the duck hunters and discovered that both of the subjects that were standing possessed loaded firearms. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Brian Lebel was working waterfowl hunters on opening day when he encountered two subjects that had taken Grebes, a protected species. While checking another group of hunters he discovered and addressed an unplugged shotgun and marine violations.

CO Troy VanGelderren was working waterfowl hunters and could hear someone shooting after the close of legal hours. CO VanGelderren was able to locate the hunter as he continued to hunt nearly 30 minutes after legal hours. CO VanGelderren witnessed the subject overload his canoe and flip it prior to making it to shore. Upon making contact with the subject it was also determined that there was no PFD aboard

the craft. The subject claimed to have forgotten his watch and was going by how much light was left. Tickets were issued for hunting after hours and failure to provide a PFD.

Sgt. Mike Bomay, CO Mike Wells, PCOs Saykham Keophalychanh and Josiah Killingbeck were checking two waterfowl hunters when they located lead shot mixed in with the shells in the hunter's bag. The hunter also had an electronic call attached to his lanyard of legal mouth-type calls. The hunter admitted to shooting a hen Mallard but upon inspection of the duck it was determined to be a hen Shoveler. CO Wells used to opportunity to educate the hunter on species ID. The vessel was also unregistered. Tickets were issued for the toxic shot and marine violation.

CO Mike Wells and PCO Josiah Killingbeck observed two waterfowl hunters approaching the access ramp and shoot and kill a Grebe on the water. The subjects shot in the direction of other nearby hunters as the officers observed from shore. The subjects were unable to identify the bird and stated that they believed they had shot a Merganser. In addition to shooting a protected species, the vessel had no PFDs onboard. Enforcement action was taken.

DISTRICT 5

CO Mark Papineau received a tip in regard to a subject repeatedly hunting deer without a license in Gladwin County. While investigating, CO Papineau contacted a subject tending his bait pile of corn and carrots. During a random conversation, the subject advised CO Papineau that he hadn't had any opportunities to hunt yet; however, since he started baiting, he was seeing several nice bucks on his game camera. The subject was so excited to show CO Papineau the photos on the game camera, he forgot about the pictures of him hunting deer two days prior to the archery opener. Ultimately, the subject fully confessed to hunting during the closed season and failing to purchase licenses. Enforcement action is being sought.

While patrolling state land in Gladwin County, CO Mark Papineau was checking a deer camp when he observed traces of blood in the nearby leaves. The camp was empty as all the hunters were in the woods hunting. Further investigation led CO Papineau to the source of the blood. Located behind the camper and stashed under a pile of leaves and ferns, CO Papineau discovered an untagged deer. Soon after the discovery, a hunter arrived back at camp and advised that hunting was rough and very few deer have been seen. When asked about the untagged deer stashed in the woods, the subject confessed to the violation.

COs Steve Lockwood and Nick Atkin responded to a complaint about a 10 foot plastic boat with two anglers that washed up on the Saginaw Bay shoreline. The COs were able to contact the two boaters who were walking down the road at 4:00 a.m. It seems they took their vessel out several miles into the Bay on a fishing adventure when they encountered mechanical problems. The reason for their early morning arrival at shore was due to the fact that it took them several hours to drift to shore.

CO Phil Hudson received a trespass complaint and responded to the area. CO Hudson waited for the suspect to return from hunting and made contact. After speaking with the hunter and contacting the landowner, it was determined that the hunter did indeed have permission. Unfortunately for the hunter, he had not yet purchased a hunting license. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Mike Hearn was working an area where he had been receiving multiple shining and poaching complaints throughout the week. One evening, CO Hearn observed a pickup truck working a spotlight on one of the fields where an eight point buck was recently poached. A stop of the vehicle and subsequent contact with the operator and passengers revealed that they were shining with an uncased bow in possession. Several narcotic violations were also located during a search of the pickup truck. The driver was arrested.

CO Chris Bowen responded to a complaint of shots being fired. When the CO arrived to the area he located a deer hanging at a residence that was improperly tagged. The hunter used a kill tag from a different DMU and failed to validate the kill tag. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Chris Bowen and Sgt. Jeremy Payne assisted three Detroit area duck hunters on Houghton Lake with an overturned boat. All hunters were rescued prior to the officers' arrival. CO Bowen and Sgt. Payne were able to retrieve some of the duck hunters gear floating in the water. While emptying the gear of water CO Bowen discovered a Mason jar full of marijuana and paraphernalia. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Chuck McPherson received a complaint about illegal dumping in the Houghton Lake area. CO McPherson responded and found numerous items containing the name and address of a local subject. CO McPherson contacted the subject and was informed she had paid an individual to take the items to a local drop off for needy persons. The subject was interviewed and confessed to the littering. The subject cleaned up the site and enforcement action was taken.

After checking a suspicious bear registration and working with Wildlife Division, CO Matt Liestenfeltz contacted a local bear hunter who had received a Red Oak tag. The hunter harvested a large bear which had buckshot wounds to the face and head. After a lengthy interview the hunter finally confessed to having killed the bear in the Baldwin BMU over illegal bait placed on state land and failing to immediately tag the animal. Enforcement action was taken.

COs Matt Liestenfeltz and Mike Hearn worked on a complaint of a large group of four-wheel drive Jeeps, trucks and ORVs that were operating in wetlands located on a local pipeline between Missaukee and Kalkaska Counties. The COs contacted a group of 30 vehicles who were making an annual "Memorial Mud Run." The officers were able to apprehend several of the drivers where their vehicles were either operating or stuck in the wetland areas. Several tickets were issued for operating in a wetland.

Last April, Sgt. Jeremy Payne assisted the Isabella County Sheriff's Department and Animal Control with an animal cruelty complaint. The suspect was an area farmer who had a large number of calves die during the winter months. It was determined the farmer did not properly care for over 70 calves that died. The case went to trial last week and at the conclusion, the farmer was found guilty of felony animal cruelty and for failing to properly dispose of the dead calves.

Sgt. Brandon Kieft and CO Kyle Bader were patrolling state land for hunting activity when they observed a parked vehicle. The COs made contact and the hunters said they had not had any success. When CO Bader asked about the blood in the back of the truck, they were quick to admit that there was a deer at their camp and it wasn't tagged. When the COs went to the camp to check the deer, Sgt. Kieft asked the suspect when he had shot the deer. After initially lying about when he shot it, he later said "about 2:00 in the morning." A search of the vehicle produced two uncased crossbows, a spotlight with blood on it, and a receipt indicating the suspects purchased the light at 10:54 p.m. the night before. Enforcement action was taken.

DISTRICT 6

A group waterfowl patrol was conducted on the opening weekend by COs Chad Foerster, Scott Brown and PCO Kyle Bucholtz at the Nayanquing Point managed game area. Several violations were encountered and several tickets and verbal warnings were given for violations, ranging from having an unplugged gun to hunting within the refuge and various marine violations related to canoes and small boats.

CO Seth Rhodea responded to a complaint of an illegal burn. Upon making contact with the suspect, a large pile of construction material was found to have been burned with another large pile of new trash sitting next to it. Enforcement action was taken for the illegal burn.

CO Chad Foerster received a complaint of recreational trespass and when he arrived at the property, he located a hunter dragging out an untagged seven point buck. Upon questioning the hunter, it was discovered he had shot another seven point buck earlier on the bow opener and only bought one deer license, also failing to tag that deer. The deer was seized and the hunter was charged with failing to tag the first buck and taking the second buck illegally without a valid tag.

CO Chad Foerster was called to assist Hampton Police Department with his four-wheeled drive patrol truck. CO Foerster drove officers down along the Bay Shore where they located one mudder-style truck stuck in the mud and another truck attempting to pull him out. Enforcement action was taken for driving a motor vehicle through wetlands and doing damage; and the driver ended up paying a hefty wrecker bill.

CO Quincy Gowenlock was working in the Gratiot/Saginaw State Game Area (SGA) when he pulled into a parking lot and observed two subjects preparing for an afternoon hunt. The CO made contact and while talking with the subjects, one asked the CO if he

would like to see their licenses. The CO said yes. The first hunter provided his license along with his driver's license. The second hunter handed the CO his hunting license and when asked for his driver's license he said he left it at home. The CO asked him for his date of birth and he replied very quickly, "98". The CO then again asked him for his DOB and again he rapidly replied with, "98". The CO then explained that a date of birth consists of a month, day and year. The DOB on the hunting license was 1/16/99. The CO advised he would be right back and got into his patrol truck. As the CO checked through LEIN he noticed that the hunter took his waders and hunting gear off and started pacing back and forth. The hunter then put his head down and walked over to the patrol truck. The CO rolled his window down and said, "You have something you want to tell me don't you"? The subject apologized and advised the CO that the hunting license he had was his younger brother's. He then gave the CO his driver's license and said he did not have a hunting license. A ticket was issued.

COs Joel Lundberg and William Brickel were on patrol in Midland County when they made a traffic stop for a motor vehicle violation. Upon contact with the driver it was determined that he had shot a doe during the early antlerless season. The COs then followed the driver back to his residence to take a look at the tags for the deer. While at the residence, it was determined that there were two animals taken during the hunt. One animal was taken by the driver and the other by his friend. Both tags were the driver's, and neither tag was validated. Contact was made with the second suspect and a confession was obtained. Enforcement action was taken.

COs Ken Lowell and Cary Foster were working in Ionia County when they located three anglers who were trespassing at one of the dams. All of the anglers were fishing beyond the fences that were posted with no trespassing signs. As the COs approached they observed one angler cut his line in an attempt to get out of a ticket for fishing with illegal gear. Violations included snagging, possession of illegal gear, trespassing and fishing without a license. One of the anglers had a warrant for his arrest. Enforcement action was taken.

DISTRICT 7

CO Steve Mooney walked into a fishing site on the Black River and observed two subjects fishing. Upon contact CO Mooney discovered that the subjects were using illegal gear, specifically a treble hook directly tied above the weight, "baited" with a piece of tube socks. Additionally, one subject did not have a fishing license. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Brad Brewer received a RAP complaint of a subject taking an eight point buck without a license on opening day of archery deer season. Additionally, it was reported the subject had never taken hunter safety as required. COs Brewer and Jeff Robinette contacted the subject and obtained a confession to the alleged information. The subject had killed an eight point buck on October 1st and had purchased a license on the second and had never taken hunter safety. Restitution and license revocation will be sought under the new enhanced penalties for a total of \$6,000 restitution and five years

plus current year for hunting license revocation. The subject was ticketed and the deer and the bow used were seized.

CO Greg Patten was on foot patrol along the Muskegon River when he observed a fishing rod lying on the ground near an angler. The rig affixed to the line was made up with a weight located below a fly and CO Patten was certain the angler would attempt to foul hook salmon as soon as he left the area. Returning to the stream and a bit of patience led to a ticket being issued when the same angler retained a foul hooked salmon that he felt was somewhat alright as he was just trying to get eggs for steelhead fishing. A ticket was issued for retaining foul hooked fish.

CO Greg Patten worked Cleveland Creek several days but on one occasion observed a trespassing angler fisherman attempt to fish. The subject eventually located a carcass of a dead salmon and removed the remaining eggs from the fish. When contacted and ticketed for attempting to snag and trespassing, the individual advised he was just trying to get some eggs. CO Patten had ticketed the same person at the same location in 2006 with exactly the same alibi.

CO Greg Patten found a subject fishing near the mouth of the Muskegon River who initially was not able to produce a fishing license. Insisting he had one, CO Patten began to run a computer check and located a resident fishing license for this person but noticed Illinois license plates and an expired Michigan driver's license on record. The end result of the investigation revealed the angler owns a home in Illinois and had been using his parents' address to procure Michigan resident licenses for himself and his daughter. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Cary Foster conducted surveillance of a subject attempting to net salmon at the Lyons Dam while also fishing with a rod. Every time a fish would move up along the apron area, the angler would drop his rod and attempt to use a landing net to capture a fish, without result. CO Foster contacted this person and issued a ticket for attempting to take fish with an illegal method.

CO Cary Foster observed three persons trespassing and fishing at the Webber Dam. A man and woman were observed snagging behind a fenced area while a third person was climbing a fence into another prohibited location. Upon contact one subject provided a false name and was later charged with this violation. All were ticketed for snagging and/or trespass violations and one was arrested on an outstanding warrant before the contact was concluded.

CO Cary Foster assisted local deputies with the recovery of tree stands stolen from a hunter last year. Some of the stands were located this season by a family member hunting on state land in Ionia County. Two stands were returned to the owner and one was held pending further investigation. A lead has been developed on a person who possibly took and resold the stands during the past year. While recovering the stands from the involved parties on state property, CO Foster ticketed those involved for baiting violations.

On the evening of the waterfowl opener, CO Cary Foster found a 14 year old crossbow hunter, who was alone, returning to a road with a flashlight. It was determined his grandfather had dropped him off and was hunting a mile away across a section. CO Foster waited for the grandfather to return to discuss the situation and define what "Accompanied" means when taking young hunters afield.

CO BJ Goulette investigated a complaint from neighbors of a person shooting a hawk with an air rifle. It was learned that a person who raises chickens in an uncovered pen had witnessed a hawk perched near the pen. The homeowner felt he was entitled to protect the chickens and shot the hawk in a residential area with an air rifle. Wounding the bird, he went to a neighbor's yard where the bird had perched and fired again, killing the red-tailed hawk. A warrant has been sought charging the shooter with illegally killing the bird and safety zone violations.

CO Dave Rodgers and Sgt. John Jurcich worked the opening evening of the waterfowl season on a small lake in Kent County which has been the source of two years of late shooting complaints. The COs maintained watch while two hunters continued to fire at both geese and ducks until 34 minutes after shooting hours ended. As Sgt. Jurcich moved through a field in the darkness, he was confronted by a property owner trying to catch the "poachers" shooting late on his lake. Jurcich assured the land owner he and CO Rodgers were in the final minutes of rounding up the suspects and the landowner commented only his neighbor's son had permission to be hunting the property but he was not a waterfowler and was very law abiding. The investigation concluded with locating two subjects who were well experienced waterfowl hunters, one of whom was the neighbor's son. The hunters had taken geese after hours and continued shooting until dark. Enforcement action was taken for hunting hours violations and warnings for two geese taken a few minutes after closing time.

CO Ivan Perez responded to a complaint from the Ottawa County Sheriff Department where a subject was being detained with a 12 point buck without a proper tag after a possible trespass violation. Determining there was no trespass in this situation, attention turned to an issue involving license purchases. While it was found the hunter normally purchases correct licenses, this year he purchased one regular deer license and several antlerless tags. Having filled his only buck tag for the year already, the hunter had now taken a second buck without a license. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Ivan Perez was called to the scene of a boating incident with the Ottawa County Sheriff Department where a mute swan was struck and killed by a boat. Witnesses indicated the operator was driving recklessly prior to the incident where the swan was struck. CO Perez had to dispatch the seriously injured swan and enforcement action was taken for the incident leading to the illegal taking of a protected bird.

DISTRICT 8

CO Jeff Goss and PCO Matt Page conducted a taxidermy inspection on a local taxidermist. Upon initial contact the taxidermist stated that he had never been

inspected before and wanted the COs to take it easy on him. During the inspection multiple violations were found including operating without a taxidermy license, possession of numerous specimens without specimen tags and several other violations. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Jeff Goss and PCO Matt Page received a RAP complaint of an adult subject wounding a deer during the youth hunt and then having the youth hunter dispatch the wounded animal. Upon further investigation and interviews the subject admitted to shooting a doe during the youth season and wounding the doe so that the youth could "finish off the animal." The subject advised that he thought the purpose for the youth hunt was to help the young hunters and that's why he shot the animal first. The subject was informed on the proper and legal methods for the youth season. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Jeff Goss and PCO Matt Page conducted a meat processor inspection at a local meat processor. During the inspection the COs located a suspicious tag and did a bit of research. It was apparent that the subject had shot a six point buck without a license and after shooting the animal, went and bought a license. The COs contacted the subject who stated that he shot the buck on opening day of bow season around 5:00 p.m. The subject then stated that he purchased his tags in April before season with a doe tag. The COs advised the subject that you cannot purchase early doe tags in April. At this point the subject admitted to shooting the six point buck and buying his combo tag around 9:00 p.m. after the fact. The deer and firearm used in this incident were seized and charges are being requested through the prosecutor's office.

On the opening day of waterfowl season, CO Rich Nickols checked a group of hunters hunting on a pond. When asked what they had shot, they responded by saying three divers and one goose. CO Nickols asked to look at the "divers" and after a quick look at the ducks, he asked them if they had any idea what they were. The hunters said they had no idea, just that they were some type of diving duck. CO Nickols informed the hunters what they had were actually not ducks but grebes. In addition to the protected species, other violations included no state waterfowl license, two unplugged guns, and two unsigned federal duck stamps.

CO Rich Nickols received a complaint of a subject dumping garbage in the Rose Lake Wildlife Area and that the person was still in the area looking to dump more. CO Nickols was close to the area and responded to find the subject in a parking area shoveling dirt out of the back of his pickup. The subject felt that it was not a big deal since it was just dirt. The subject was able to shovel most of the dirt back into his truck in about the same time it took CO Nickols to write him a ticket.

CO Rich Nickols received a complaint of a large buck that had possibly been poached. The complainant was out bow hunting and heard two shots near the back of his property. Later that morning, the complainant's nephew was out hunting and discovered the deer injured but not dead. The nephew shot the deer with his bow and arrow and observed what appeared to be a bullet wound on the neck of the deer. CO

Nickols responded to the complaint and found the deer as described. CO Nickols performed a necropsy on the deer and found that the wound was more than likely caused by another buck the deer had been fighting with.

CO Rich Nickols completed a successful investigation into the illegal killing of a turkey discovered on a popular social web page. The subject provided a full written confession when presented with the evidence.

CO Shane Webster and PCO Chris Reynolds inspected several deer processors in the Jackson area and found a suspicious tag on a deer in a cooler. The deer was taken in to the processor near the same time the tag was purchased. CO Webster followed up with an interview of the hunter and obtained a confession from the individual for shooting the deer prior to purchasing his kill tag. Enforcement action will be taken.

CO Shane Webster and PCO Chris Reynolds responded to a farm in which the foreman set a fire to an old house structure. The foreman had applied for a burn permit earlier in the week and was turned down. The COs conducted an investigation, took witness statements and took several photos. The investigation is ongoing.

While patrolling late at night, CO Todd Thorn and PCO Andrew Sutzko observed a pickup truck parked at a game area. The COs observed kennels in the back of the truck along with some traps. After a closer observation, a live raccoon was found in one of the two untagged traps. After waiting for about 15 minutes, the houndsmen came out of the woods and were contacted by the COs. One of the subjects admitted to trapping the raccoon just up the road on State land. PCO Sutzko explained to the subject that it was not trapping season nor could he have a live game animal in a trap. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Todd Thorn located an illegal dump site on State land in the Dansville SGA. He searched through some of the items and found a name and address. The man whose name was found within the garbage was contacted and eventually admitted to placing the garbage in the game area access site. The garbage was cleaned up and enforcement action was taken.

DISTRICT 9

CO Derek Miller and PCO Justin Ulberg contacted a juvenile operating an ORV on the roadway in Washtenaw County. The juvenile was not supervised, did not have a valid ORV license and was on a very busy road. The COs safely escorted the youngster to his residence and contacted his parents. The officers explained the laws being violated and advised the parents of the safety concern related to their son's operation. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Ben Lasher observed a vehicle shining bean fields on private Consumers Power Property at around 9:00 p.m. The subjects were shining with a bow in possession and had open intoxicants. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Dan Walzak was checking a group of waterfowl hunters in a vessel and found a loaded shotgun. The surprised hunter tried to tell CO Walzak that he worked the action on his semi-automatic shotgun at least a half dozen times to eject all of the shot-shells but couldn't explain why the one round was left in the firearm. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Mike Drexler received an Oakland County complaint where a subject was suspected of shooting a deer with a shotgun behind his residence. When CO Drexler contacted the suspect at his residence the first observation he made was a drop of blood on the subject's bare foot. The suspect stated he was not hunting that morning; however he did hear a gun shot. The man claimed the spot of blood must have come from when he was walking his dog. When CO Drexler advised the man he was going to take a look around his property the man became agitated and claimed he was being treated like a criminal, and then stormed off into the house. Within five minutes CO Drexler located a fresh blood trail leading to two garbage bags covered in fresh blood and deer hair. As CO Drexler walked the bags containing the freshly killed deer parts to his patrol vehicle, the man came out of his house stating, "You found it, I lied, and I'm sorry." Violations included taking a six point buck with a shotgun during the archery only season and take deer without a license. The deer was confiscated and enforcement action was taken.

CO Mike Drexler teamed up with a DNR Wildlife Biologist for the Waterfowl opener at Point Mouillee SGA. The pair patrolled the marsh by vessel to target numerous complaints of early shooting. When shooting started approximately 25 minutes prior to legal hunting hours, they motored toward where the first shot came from. As they conducted surveillance of the marsh a shot came from within 50-75 yards of where they were positioned. As they approached the hunter's blind they recovered a freshly killed drake mallard, taken 12 minutes prior to legal hunting hours. When CO Drexler announced who he was and asked who killed the duck, one of the hunters admitted it was his. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Mike Drexler was checking waterfowl hunters at the Chelsea SGA when he contacted two hunters coming off of Four Mile Lake. When the CO asked to see their hunting licenses, one of the hunters only provided a federal waterfowl stamp stating, "That's all they gave me." After confirming through a computer check of license purchases that this was not the subject's first year waterfowl hunting, enforcement action was taken. Several verbal warnings were given including hunt waterfowl without a base license and unsigned federal stamp.

PCO Richard Cardenas and CO Daniel Prince worked a complaint in Oakland County about waterfowl hunters hunting over bait. The COs arrived early to observe the area for hunting activity. The COs contacted three duck hunters early in the morning and found shelled corn in the water in front of their blind. The officers obtained written voluntary statements from the suspects confessing to illegally baiting waterfowl. PCO Cardenas gathered evidence from the scene. When officers asked why they illegally

baited the area the hunters responded that they wanted to kill a few more ducks. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Kris Kiel was on foot patrol, working waterfowl hunters at the Wetzel Recreation Area. CO Kiel set up approximately 20 ft. behind a father and son team after observing them not picking up their decoys at the end of shooting hours. CO Kiel overheard their conversation when the father decided to finally pick up the decoys, ten minutes after shooting hours ended. The son asked the father if he thought anyone would still shoot. The father said, "No, you're not supposed to." The son then asked, "Why not?" The father replied, "Because the DNR could be in the parking lot, you never know." Just then, CO Kiel stood up and the son said, "No Dad, he's right here!" After going through the complete check, CO Kiel listed the violations: firearms loaded 15 minutes after hours, lead shot, unplugged gun loaded with five rounds, and an unsigned federal stamp. The son laughed at the father, "Dad, you're gonna get a ticket!" Enforcement action was taken.

Sgt. Kevin Hackworth responded to a complaint involving a person who had come across a dead deer that had been shot with an arrow. The person gutted the deer to give it to a needy elderly couple who lived nearby. The person became concerned after he discovered a yellow gelatinous material inside the deer's body cavity and called the RAP line. After inspection it was found that the material was internal body fat. A permit was issued for the elderly couple to keep the deer and an explanation of the tagging law was given to the well-intended bow hunter.

CO Derek Miller and Sgt. Kevin Hackworth were on patrol for the waterfowl opener when they observed a subject breasting out ducks on the tailgate of a truck with a shotgun leaning on the side of the truck bed. The COs investigated and found a five man limit of ducks for three hunters. Further investigation led to the discovery that two additional hunters were missing from the scene. The missing hunters were called back to the scene in order to straighten out the story being given. The two missing hunters admitted to taking a total of four wood ducks and one mallard without having purchased hunting licenses or stamps. Enforcement action was taken and the illegally taken ducks were seized.

CO Derek Miller received a hunter harassment complaint regarding a stolen bow hunting stand. The hunter arrived at his tree stand before sunrise and found that half of his tree stand was missing. The hunter made the call to CO Miller after going to the neighboring property owner and finding half of his stand lying in the front lawn. Upon arrival, CO Miller did not locate the stand in question. The homeowner stated that it had been moved. Charges are being sought for hunter harassment and larceny.

CO Mark Ennett checked an angler in Monroe County with nine catfish over the legal limit. Enforcement action was taken. A member of his group, who was only 10 inches away from a fishing pole, denied fishing, leaving the angler as the only licensed angler present with the entire bucket of fish.

BELLE ISLE

CO Derek Miller and PCO Justin Ulberg were on patrol on Belle Isle when they located a vehicle being operated without tail lights and in an unsafe manner. After a traffic stop was made on the vehicle the officers discovered that the occupants had been drinking for some time. The driver could not produce a valid driver's license or any of the information showing that she was borrowing the vehicle from a family member. A file check of the back seat passenger revealed that he was wanted on felony counts out of Wayne County and had several other misdemeanor warrants. The driver of the vehicle was cited and one subject was lodged on his outstanding warrants.

CO Derek Miller and PCO Justin Ulberg were flagged down by a person on Belle Isle regarding a subject who appeared drunk and disorderly. The Officers located the individual. The officers were assisted by the Michigan State Police, and the subject was removed from the island without incident.

While working a shift on Belle Isle, Sgt Arthur Green made contact with two separate groups of people at the Scott Fountain that were in the fountain. The first group was sitting on the edge with their feet in the fountain, and the second group had a young child and their dog walking in the fountain. Both groups said they didn't think anything was wrong because there was no water in the fountain. Sgt Green explained there is a sensitive membrane lining the bottom and they could damage it. The subjects apologized and left the area.

Working on Belle Isle, CO Dan Walzak observed a car passing other vehicles and clearly exceeding the speed limit while driving around the island. CO Walzak stopped the vehicle and asked the driver why he was driving so fast. The driver stated that he was part of the film crew that had been working on the island that day. He was released from work early and wanted to take a drive around the island to see what it was like. When CO Walzak asked if he had seen any speed limit signs the driver answered that he had and fully realized that the speed limit was 25 miles per hour. When the CO asked him if he knew how fast he was driving the driver just said "45". CO Walzak asked the subject about his driving record and the driver said "Well, I just got a speeding ticket about two weeks ago but I haven't been to court on it yet." Enforcement action was taken.

COs Mike Drexler and Larn Strawn were working a midnight shift on Belle Isle when they observed a vehicle travel the wrong way down a one way road. As the COs started after the vehicle to conduct a traffic stop, it reached speeds of 60 to 70mph in a 25 mph zone. Once a traffic stop was conducted the COs detected the operator had been consuming alcohol. Field sobriety tests were administered and the operator was subsequently arrested and lodged for Operating While Intoxicated with blood alcohol content close to twice the legal limit.

CO Shane Webster was patrolling Belle Isle when he noted a vehicle traveling the wrong-way down Central Avenue. CO Webster conducted a traffic stop of the vehicle

and was immediately met with verbal hostility from the operator. A check of the individual showed no warrants or outstanding issues. CO Webster returned to the vehicle and began explaining to the operator that he was issuing him a verbal warning. During the explanation the operator placed the vehicle in gear and quickly accelerated as CO Webster was still standing immediately next to it. The vehicle's rear tire ran over CO Webster's foot as it sped away. CO Webster immediately pursued the vehicle and the subject stopped after approximately a mile of high speed driving. CO Damon Owens also responded from the Island and the subject was taken into custody and transported to the Detroit Detention Center. Warrants were sought and sworn to for Resisting and Obstructing an Officer causing injury, Flee and Elude, and Reckless Driving.